

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**1 to 9. (Canceled)**

**10. (New)** A process for preparing glyoxylic esters, which comprises:

- a) transesterifying a glyoxylic ester hemiacetal directly with an alcohol in the presence of a dialkyltin catalyst and then
- b) cleaving the transesterified hemiacetal of step a) to give the free glyoxylic ester or its hydrate.

**11. (New)** The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the glyoxylic acid ester hemiacetals used are glyoxylic acid methyl ester, ethyl ester, n-propyl ester, isopropyl ester, or t- or n-butyl ester hemiacetals.

**12. (New)** The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the transesterification is performed using a chiral or nonchiral, primary, secondary or tertiary alcohol.

**13. (New)** The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the alcohol used is an acyclic, monocyclic, bicyclic terpene alcohol, an acyclic, monocyclic or tricyclic sesquiterpene alcohol, di- or triterpene alcohol.

**14. (New)** The process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the catalyst used is dialkyltin dicarboxylate having 1-12 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety.

**15. (New)** A process for preparing glyoxylic esters, which comprises

- a) converting a glyoxylic ester hemiacetal into the corresponding glyoxylic ester acetal,
- b) transesterifying said acetal in the presence of a dialkyl tin catalyst and
- c) cleaving the transesterified acetal to the free glyoxylic ester or its hydrate.

**16. (New)** The process according to claim 15 wherein the catalyst is a dialkyl tin dicarboxylate having 1-12 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety.